

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

### **1. (Canceled)**

**2. (Currently Amended)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus for reproducing coded data included in a plurality of packets, wherein a packet start code composed of fixed data which indicates a packet boundary between a subsequent packet is placed at a head portion of each packet, said coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:

a matching status information outputter configured to detect whether a sequence of input code is a part of the packet start code, and to output the detection result as matching status information; and

a data formatter configured to

(i) output, when the sequence of input code is judged not to be a part of the packet start code but to be a part of a particular sequence of coded data, said part of the particular sequence of coded data in accordance with the matching status information output by said matching status information outputter, and

(ii) not to output, when the sequence of input code is judged to be a part of the packet start code, said part of the packet start code,

wherein the particular sequence of coded data and the packet start code have the same prefix code consisting of plural bytes,

wherein said matching status information outputter includes a head code detection unit configured to receive the sequence of input code in units of a predetermined bit length, and to

determine whether a current input code of the sequence of input code matches a current code of the packet start code.

~~A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 21,~~

wherein said matching status information outputter includes:

a matching status historical information hold unit ~~operable configured~~ to receive matching information indicating whether the current input code of the sequence of input code matches the current code of the packet start code from said head code detection unit, and to hold historical information indicating how many consecutive times the current input code of the sequence of input code matches the current code of the packet start code, and

wherein said head code detection unit identifies the current input code of the packet start code based on the historical information stored on said matching status historical information hold unit.

**3. (Currently Amended)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 2, wherein said matching status information outputter includes:

a start code discriminator ~~operable configured~~ to discriminate the packet start code by using a packet start code identifier existing in the last part of the packet start code when the historical information indicates that the sequence of input code matches the packet start code other than the packet start code identifier.

**4. (Currently Amended)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 2, wherein said matching status information outputter includes:

a start code discriminator ~~operable~~ configured to discriminate a hierarchy start code of video data in accordance with a video hierarchy identifier of coded video data which exists in a position corresponding to the last part of the packet start code when the historical information indicates that the sequence of input code matches the packet start code other than the packet start code identifier.

**5. (Canceled)**

**6. (Currently Amended)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus for reproducing coded data included in a plurality of packets, wherein a packet start code composed of fixed data which indicates a packet boundary between a subsequent packet is placed at a head portion of each packet, said coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:

a matching status information outputter configured to detect whether a sequence of input code is a part of the packet start code, and to output the detection result as matching status information;

a data formatter configured to

(i) output, when the sequence of input code is judged not to be a part of the packet start code but to be a part of a particular sequence of coded data, said part of the particular

sequence of coded data in accordance with the matching status information output by said matching status information outputter, and

(ii) not to output, when the sequence of input code is judged to be a part of the packet start code, said part of the packet start code; and

a header analyzer configured to analyze the header of the packet to output reproduction information when the code which is input is coded video data,

wherein the particular sequence of coded data and the packet start code have the same prefix code consisting of plural bytes,

wherein said data formatter is configured to insert the reproduction information together with information indicating effectiveness of the reproduction information, in a predetermined position in the coded video data, and

~~A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 5,~~

wherein said header analyzer includes a header analysis unit ~~operable-configured~~ to analyze the header of the packet and to output the reproduction information, and a reproduction information hold unit ~~operable-configured~~ to hold the reproduction information.

**7. (Currently Amended)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 6, wherein said header analyzer is ~~operable-configured~~ to activate when the packet start code is identified.

**8-11. (Canceled)**

**12. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 2, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**13. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 3, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**14. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 4, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**15. (Canceled)**

**16. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 6, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**17. (Previously Presented)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 7, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**18-21. (Canceled)**

**22. (New)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus for reproducing coded data included in a plurality of packets, wherein a packet start code composed of fixed data which indicates a packet boundary between a subsequent packet is placed at a head position of each packet, said coded signal reproduction apparatus comprising:

a matching status information outputter configured to detect whether a sequence of input code is a part of the packet start code, and to output the detection result as matching status information;

a data formatter configured to

(i) output, when the sequence of input code is judged not to be a part of the packet start code but to be a part of a particular sequence of coded data, said part of the particular sequence of coded data in accordance with the matching status information output by said matching status information outputter, and

(ii) not to output, when the sequence of input code is judged to be a part of the packet start code, said part of the packet start code; and

a header analyzer configured to analyze the header of the packet to output reproduction information when the sequence of input code is coded video data,

wherein the particular sequence of coded data and the packet start code have the same prefix code consisting of plural bytes, and

wherein said header analyzer includes a header analysis unit configured to analyze the header of the packet to output the reproduction information, and a reproduction information hold unit configured to hold the reproduction information.

**23. (New)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 22, wherein said header analyzer is configured to activate when the packet start code is identified.

**24. (New)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 23, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.

**25. (New)** A coded signal reproduction apparatus as described in Claim 22, wherein the sequence of input code is a coded and multiplexed signal in which audio, video, and reproduction information annexed thereto are multiplexed.